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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/820,135 Confirmation No.: 6664  
Applicant : Nils KJELLBERG, et al.  
Filed : April 8, 2004  
TC/A.U. : 1711  
Examiner : Irena ZEMEL  
Docket No. : 038724.53972US  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : **BRINE SEPARATION IN TALL SOAP OIL PREPARATION**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement of May 23, 2005, the Applicants respectfully elect with traverse Group 1, including claims 1-15, which the Examiner noted were drawn to a process for separating aqueous sodium bicarbonate brine from soap oil.

This election is made with traverse, it being submitted that the subject matter of the Group II, claims 16-19 is such that it should properly be examined and allowed in a single application along with the elected Group I Claims. Both groups relate to the same invention, utilizing high density water to improve the separation of an aqueous brine solution, applied in two different positions of a two-stage process of converting soap to tall oil (*i.e.*, acidulation of soap with carbonic acid to produce soap oil, and further acidulation of the soap oil with sulphuric acid to produce tall oil).

Serial No. 10/846,927  
Atty. Dkt. No. 038724.53972US

If there are any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #038724.53972US).

Respectfully submitted,

June 23, 2005



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